Dear Howard, 4/6/76

Your 4/2 memo on my letter to the Enquirerx came this morning, with the Schorr piece. Many thanks for both.

Without rereading what I wrote the Enquirer I do not understand what concerns you but from what you have written there appears to be no disagreement at all.

I'm not taking time timeto replay the tape. I'll have to do that later in the week anyway. I am trying to get the full tape, which was promised years ago. This time I'm trying the source from whom I received the excerpt, where he saw other and non-existing values. I'm also trying Mary Ferrell, through Bud, xx Mary promised it years ago.

To this point 5 phone calls, none frivolous!

The clearest accent, of course, is that of Benadvides. And it is long after what has tobe Bowley. In itself, without the Callaway, which I don't remember either way (present or not present), this is more than enough because the first voice is certainly not that of Benavides.

On this simple basis, and the Enquirer requires simplifity, we do have what Belin well described as a Rosetta Stone, with the Bowley affidavit and the Benadvides testimony which, as I recall, we used in PM.

To keep it simple in WW, I used only Belin's questioning of Whaley, but I'm sure I have some citations there. I'll check when I have to in a couple of days. If Callaway is on this tape, then I can use him, too. if He is not he isn't needed. But it was quite some time, relatively, before he got there.

This tape even includes the copy with the certain"eyeball" witness, was it Summers?, who is told not necessary now!

I had to read your memo while also paying attention to a crazy TV broadcast on which Renfro Hays misrepresented himself as the one and only Ray investigator, which he is not and never was. So, I may not have picked up some subltetie s.

What interests me is the simple Rosetta Stone aspects of the timing, which is the living end but is entirely un-new. What is new is the a) suppression of the tapes and b) the kind of thing that seems new and can get attention. I can even see the Enquirer holding a D.C. press conference to play the tape at the National Press Club. ~~XXXXXX~~ Thus I hope you sent no carbons out. Even Sylvia has as her only associations now the utterly undependable, which is not really that new. I want to handle this the way I know it can work. With all the fuckingup in Congress, we need something like this now. It will also help on FOIA cases. Judges, too, go for the simplistic when they lack fact.

Now I also have to listen to a speech by Coretta King while writing you.

If you are worried, there is nothing to worry about. If your purpose was to provide more info, then that is helpful with the Callaway citation. Stripped of what makes this acceptable to the press now what this boils down to is absolutely nothing new: What I did inWW and PM, but I can't say that to the Enquirer. They have to have something "new " and exclusive to go for it. That the crooked transcripts are crooked on this also helps. I had, however, assumed it without checking, so the citations are helpful with the time pressures. But the tape is not crooked and it is clear that Benavides could not use the radio and that for some strange reason he did try later and was told to shut up and clear the radio. The suppression of the tapes is initself significant. And what Be,in did is to suborn perjury, which I'll say if they'll use. His work with Whaley is culpable. With this it is worse.

I did remember the Delgado part of O in NO, thanks.Nobody in his right mind and with a y knowledge of or experience in the military would ever believe that an enlisted man was relieved from guard duty to talk to a Cuban in 1959. And the Orwell.

It is hours later but I think I recall what else I had in mind.

More calls, a TV show and a man with a demonstrator typewriter because Lil needs a new one. I have a newfangled (wonderful) submin&rature tape recorder he handles, gave him some ideas for improvement, so he's happy with us, too.

What you said about O in NO intrigued me. It has been so long since I looked at it. However, if you want to know the impression that material made on me, I reread those pages and there is one thing only I did not recll: that Delgado was corporal of the guard.

Gerry Hemming is embellishing on that story now, as in the current Argosy. No, I forgot one more thing: that it was White Russian literature.

I do not think the Rocca report is in the 1466 pages I just got from CIA. I have a student, a fine young woman, who is going to read and summarize that file. I'll know then. I have asked CIA and there hasn t been any response since that story appeared. I am pretty sure I can get it from the AP man.

The editing, for which I've always longed, was terrible on O in NO. A minor but one-hunk example is the excision of almost all on the training camps. The documents themselves were great. Included but cut.

You have heard or will hear from Roger Feinman, a friend at CBS News. It is for him I asked you to ask for the tape supposedly recording the actual shots. Somehow Lane's people have become interested in this at the same time. One spoke to me night before last. Roger is sold and a very fine guy. It is not merely that I am fon of him. I respect him and he earned respect. A very substantial young man and a real human. You can trust him. Please do.

As you may have gathered, I have been making new reporter friends. The Newsday stories from the Inquirer, which I saw - I've not yet been able to read any of that - started with me and a man who has become a very good friend, Jes Payne, who carried what I gave him forward with exceptional professionalism. Withal he, too, is w onderful human. I went to Memphis with him last week to be able to help him. His paper paid all but the wallet I lost, with all IDs and $150 cash. In doing this I was able to forward my own work. I think he may have had this in mind. He stays in touch, the best possible person with whom to work. He phoned just today. Tomorrow he is on a TV show with Clarnece Kelley. He'll ask some good questions. He's ready.

If I get the still missing exsess transcripts the AP man who wrote those CIA stories will arrange a press conference at which I'll make them available. I'll arrange for a short period in which the major media can read copies but all will have the same release time. He has agreed.

The real problem remains what it was, the nuts and self-seekers.

Bowley, by the way, remained at the scene until after Callaway and Crogiins mounted their trusty steed and were off with Tippit's weapon. If he had not been there, how could he known this?

He stacks.

Many thanks and our best,